

SECONDARY INTERNET SAFETY

Internet Safety:

Internet Safety teaches students to stay safe while protecting their **digital identity**, personal data, and engaging respectfully online.

Digital Learning Integration and Computer Science Skills:

By staying safe, positive, and ethical when using technology and interacting with others, students build healthy online habits and contribute to a supportive digital environment.

- Students protect their personal identity and data by understanding how data is collected and the risks of sharing information online.
- Students practice safe cybersecurity practices and understand online attacks to help combat online threats.

How Parents and Families Can Support:

Ask your child:

- How do you protect your identity when you are online?
- Why is protecting your personal identity so important and what are some steps that you take to keep it safe on **social media**?
- What should you do if either your device or your personal identity has been compromised?



Digital Learning:

Digital Learning teaches students to use appropriate technologies to deepen learning, set personal learning goals, build learning communities, and seek feedback to improve and empower their learning.

Digital Learning Integration & Computer Science Skills:

By working collaboratively to help enhance their skills to be future ready citizens, **students enhance** their knowledge by building digital learning communities, communicating with others, and seeking feedback for their work.

- Students apply **computational thinking** skills by breaking complex problems into parts, using data analysis skills, modeling their work, and using algorithmic thinking to design ideas and test solutions.
- Students learn how to properly cite and give recognition to others' works through proper copyright practices and fair use knowledge.

How Parents and Families Can Support:

Ask your child:

- How are you communicating and collaborating with the other students during group projects? What methods are most effective?
- How do you break up assignments into manageable parts to complete?
- When must you cite a source? Why is it important to give people recognition of their work?

Digital Wellness:

Digital Wellness teaches students to maintain healthy, balanced tech habits, manage screen time, support emotional, physical, and social well being, and make intentional choices both online and offline.

Digital Learning Integration & Computer Science Skills:

While using safe, responsible, and respectful online behaviors, **students work together** and communicate with one another.

- Students stay digitally aware of their online environment by reviewing impacts of screen time on physical and mental health and by discussing social media and its effects on mental health and well-being.
- Students discuss possible effects of **cyberbullying** through analyzing the impacts of screen time on physical and mental health.

How Parents and Families Can Support:

Ask your child:

- What are some ways that we can work together to come up with a plan for screen time at home?
- What are the benefits to being respectful and responsible when working online with others? What are strategies you can use when the group is not working well together?
- Why is it important to speak up if either you or your classmates feel unsafe online?



Media Literacy:

Media Literacy teaches students how to evaluate and curate digital sources, how to assess accuracy of materials, and how to consider different perspectives to make meaningful connections and conclusions.

Digital Learning Integration & Computer Science Skills:

Students evaluate and assess information and graphics for accuracy, perspective, credibility, and relevance, building their ability to organize resources to make meaningful connections and clear conclusions.

- Students create and publish content for intended audiences and give proper attribution to others' work.
- Students use a variety of data types and structures to solve real world problems by utilizing data analysis to create solutions and draw conclusion based on the results allows.
- Students utilize existing code and media from programs and provide proper attribution.

How Parents and Families Can Support:

Ask your child:

- How do you use research to evaluate if something is either accurate or credible online?
- When you complete a research project on real-world problems, how do you find or collect credible data?
- When creating a video or building a coding program how do you give proper credit for other's work in your creation?
- What should you think about in your design to make sure your published work is accessible for everyone?

Digital Citizenship:

Digital Citizenship teaches students to behave responsibly and ethically online while protecting personal information and building a positive digital identity.

Digital Learning Integration & Computer Science Skills:

By communicating and collaborating with various communities using positive, safe, legal, and ethical habits, **students learn to work with others** to help make them life and future ready.

- Students safely share personal data online while learning how it is collected, stored, and made public.
- Learning to manage their digital identities and **footprints** allows students to create a balance of their lives both online and offline.
- Students evaluate the social and ethical impacts of computing by discussing cybersecurity and network issues like censorship, privacy, safety, and access.

How Parents and Families Can Support:

Ask your child:

- How is personal data stored online? Why is it important to limit information online?
- What steps do you take to manage your digital footprint? How are you building it thinking about college or future employers viewing the content?
- What are some ways to stay safe when using technology both inside and outside the classroom?

Disclaimer: The "Model Policy concerning Internet Safety was developed by the Internet Safety Advisory Council (ISAC) to help advance the goal of safe use of media technology by students and teachers in public schools in the Commonwealth. While the document itself offers recommendations. Each Virginia school division sets its own policies for certain tools, platforms, and classroom practices. Any examples shared are only shared as possible resources for Internet Safety, but actual implementation will depend on local division decisions and available resources.

It is important to understand the expectations for safe and responsible technology use within the local school division's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). It supports compliance with state and federal laws, ensures consistent rules and consequences, and strengthens communication between home and school. This shared understanding promotes safer digital behavior and better decision making online.